

THE ORIGINAL

Moonbeams

BY COLONEL LITTLE

The Smallest Newspaper in the West

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President Ike's Inauguration is ripe in the Valley of the Moon

Guess we hit it right in last week's top headline—"Overdue Rainy Season is ripe." Probably shouldn't press our luck, so there'll be no more weather predictions—for a while anyway. We're still about 10 inches short of normal rainfall, but probably there will be no disastrous effects hereabouts.

Most husbands know the ropes. They've been on them for years. VALLEY WATCH REPAIR, Boyes. For the finest gifts!

That Acacia Grove fire last Saturday night probably didn't cause it, perhaps the rain did, but our electric clock stopped at 9:30 and at 4:30 the next morning we were able to get it going again. It's one of those which doesn't start up again automatically.

THE FOOD MART, Feters Springs. An extra fine neighborhood market. Finest quality, lowest prices. Closed Sat., open Sun.

From radio: The Red Chinese say Elvis Pelvis is a menace, that we're parachuting his records into China, and the boys and gals there are being corrupted by rock 'n' roll. If that's true, it's wonderful—and we've found something about Elvis worthy of commendation.

BOYES SPRINGS FOOD CENTER. Lowest prices, highest quality. Take-out license. Beverages. Friendly and fast service. One-Stop.

A large proportion of the most popular songs as of now were written 20 to 40 years ago, but the youngsters don't know it—and probably wouldn't believe it. The newest songs—like "Walking in the Rain" and "Singing the Blues" aren't much good, mainly because they've thrown in an extra measure which spoils a standard form of a chorus—16 bars. When they throw in an extra four beats between the 12th and 13th measures, the whole thing is out of kilter. Many of the hill-

billy and cowboy songs also seem to get in that extra, unneeded, and rather revolting measure.

ADOBE DRUG (Ray S. Duer), 417 First St. W., Sonoma. WE 8-2971.
Prescription Specialists Veterinary Supplies

During the late lamented war the army tried a few innovations in its typewritten and printed documents—such as 15 January and 1300 a.m. These haven't caught on at all with civilians, and we hope never will. One such did stick, though — the use of Lt. instead of Lieut. Rather resent even that change, but in 20 or 30 years may get to live with it.

TODD CONSTRUCTION - ESTIMATING SERVICE. Surveying. Subdivisions. 18340 Sonoma Hwy., Boyes. Greengrass Bldg.

So now they tell us Glen Ellen may yet get its sewers. Residents up that way have been paying sewer taxes for about four years now, and they're rightfully getting somewhat hot under the collar. Work on the Glen Ellen extension from Eldridge is supposed to get going within the next few weeks, so there are hopeful signs at least.

DENNY'S COG CLUB, Boyes. Sportsmen's headquarters. Friendly service and companionship. Finest in mixed drinks.

ORDERS TAKEN for Individual Pecan Poes—for parties or meetings. Call WE 8-5893. Delectable! Unique. Prompt delivery.

Over a year ago Frank Burmis brought the door prize for the Lions club meeting and your editor won two T-bone steaks. Tuesday night this week Frank did it again, and your editor did it again. They were pretty wonderful and we loved them, but we don't expect to become an addict right away. Can't afford 'em as a steady diet.

BANCROFT NURSERY, Sonoma. Time for planning your outdoor display for spring and summer. Shop here for bulbs, plants, shrubs.

PAUL'S RESORT, Verano. Favorite for banquets, group and family dinners. Splendid menu. Cocktail bar. Paul at the organ.

That reference to our rains and Moonbeams' timeliness in mentioning them recalls the SatEvePost, which has a long record of coming up with some feature article at about the time the country or event referred to gets "ripe." By the way, the Post celebrates another birthday this week. Ben Franklin founded the magazine, and while it was out of commission for some years, it still has a long and renowned history.

EL DORADO HOTEL, Sonoma, serves wonderful Spanish and American style dinners. Old West atmosphere. Cocktail bar.

Published every Friday by the Little Publishing Co., Box 446, Boyes Hot Springs, Calif. E. A. Little, the Old Colonel, is editor. \$1.29 per year by mail, pickup free. Low advertising rate. Phone WE 8-4500.

LEE STARRETT, Masseur, at Bathhouse, Boyes. Massages, slenderizing. You'll look and feel better. Make it a habit.

There could be some warranted criticism directed at the March of Dimes management. They use printed matter which undoubtedly costs a fortune, entirely unnecessary. They don't really have to impress the fund workers with their flair for three-colored printing—and its cost all comes from contributions. Even their little "canteens" placed in various business places are much too ornate. We're mighty certain this material isn't donated.

BROADWAY CAFE, Sonoma. Known for wonderful drinkables, wide selection on off-sale, a friendly, congenial atmosphere.

GLEN ELLEN LIQUOR STORE. On Arnold Drive. Fine wines and Liquors. A friendly place, always. "SLIM" WALLACE.

Dunbar school is again going to put an \$80,000 bond issue before the voters, about March 28. Two similar bond elections resulted in refusal of the voters to go for them.

We have and still believe that all school boards should look into the matter of using their present school plants to capacity — that means at least 12 hours a day, maybe staggering classes, and a full 12 months a year schedule instead of the present 8 months. Sure, it isn't the way schools used to be run, but they didn't at one time have as many pupils to care for. We can't go on and on indefinitely building new school buildings. Would a factory use its expensive plant only a part of the time?

SONOMA GROVE, Hiway 12 south of Boyes. Italian dishes our specialty—but also steaks, poultry, roasts, seafood—everything!

SONOMA FURNITURE MART. Sal Argento. New location—113 West Napa St. Larger and more varied stocks. Mighty low prices.

Do you know the difference between facts and figures? Snug girdle.

SONOMA MISSION INN, Boyes. A nationally known hotel, noted for quietly luxurious accommodations, splendid meals, fine bar.

RICHFIELD SERVICE, Boyes Springs. Center of town. Fast and efficient service. Accessories. Bud Delaney, Proprietor.

So many people have been looking to the Coyote dam and more recently the Dry creek dam as a solution to the Valley's water problem. We've wondered how they can so easily overlook a solution that's right in our front yard.

We're not going to get water from Coyote or Dry creek for years and years, and if we ever do it's going to cost so much nobody will be able to afford it. And we're not too sure we're in any great danger of a local water shortage in the foreseeable future.

But we've got a nice little river that drains this whole valley. All

it would take to solve our water problem is to build a series of dams (permanent dams) up and down the river and we'll have all the water needed for irrigation, lawn sprinkling, fire protection, and quite possibly enough for drinking and household use.

Why hasn't there been an exhaustive study of this matter—instead of the brushoff the suggestion usually meets with?

TOWN HOUSE SUPPER CLUB, Glen Ellen. The Amantes welcome you. Wonderful cusine, exotic atmosphere. Music weekends.

SEE GREENGRASS for expert advice on all matters pertaining to Real Estate, Insurance. Phone 8-4731. 18340 Sonoma Hiway.

That brief "Program for the Springs Area" we print quite frequently has already brought us favorable comment from prominent Springs leaders; they're 100 per cent for one or all of the suggestions. Think we may add more from time to time. One that could and should be accomplished soon is an additional bridge across Sonoma river at about Craig avenue, connecting with Thompson. Many El Verano and Sonoma Vista residents would find it a most welcome short cut. And certainly everybody with any interest whatever in El Verano school would find it the answer to a lot of traffic problems. Let's get to work on this.

SONOMA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, Arnold Drive. You'll like our Clown Room. Bring your guests here, for outstanding prestige. FRANK'S HARDWARE, Castner Bldg., Boyes. Paints, Tools, Glass. Household utensils, electrical appliances. Giftware.

Boyes Springs Merchants association has some new officers. Andy Trotto of the Valley of the Moon Cleaners is president; O. E. Thompson of Boyes Variety store is vice president; Lila Del Ponte of the Blackburn Realty company is secretary, and Norman Montgomery of the bath house is treasurer. Directors are Harry Price, Milton Greger, Marie Shane, Bob Lanning, Tony Jimenez and Tom Polidori.

TOWNSEND'S, next to Bank of America, Sonoma. Shoes for the family. Koret sport shirts and jackets. Levis, Jeans, Work Clothes. MENDEL'S CAFE, Boyes Plaza. Splendid menu. Recently added: Spanish foods. Cocktail bar for the most discriminating.

Ever hear of pyrography? Most every youngster develops a liking for some hobby, and while he may stick with it for only a few weeks, they're good things to have.

As a youngster the first pyrography outfits came out. You might call it "wood burning." Got a whole outfit for something like \$2.50, which included a few soft wood articles ready to be "burnt."

The actual working parts consisted of a small bottle to hold the wood alcohol, a stopper, a long rubber tube with a little pen-like gad-

et at one end, a bulb at the other, which you squeezed to send the alcohol to the pen. Forgotten how it worked, but it must have been lit some way or other. When the pen-point got red hot you traced over the patterns on the wood. Lotsa fun. But only for a little while!

MANCUSO WINES, grower-produced. Glen Ellen. Available at every retail outlet. As good as the best, and better than most.

R. A. "BOB" MILLER — "Yours for Life"

Insurance Exclusively **Next to Telephone Co., Sonoma**

A devoted philatelist (stamp collector) told us last week that the Boyes Springs postoffice is the finest in this area for acquiring new issues of stamps (you know there's new commemorative stamps coming out very frequently). Postmaster (no, it isn't "postmistress") Marie Shane admitted it's rather likely, because many collectors have gotten in the habit of expecting her to have the new stamps in stock—full sheets of them. Other nearby postmasters don't care to bother with them. Some collectors buy a sheet or two, others get "blocks" of 4 or 16. But they can always be found at the Boyes postoffice.

There was a story not long ago of a man who purchased two sheets of a rather high-priced stamp—came to about \$240. But those two sheets were not perforated (some mishap in the government printing office, probably) and those two sheets are said to be worth exactly \$35,000!

POWDER BOX BEAUTY SHOP, Arnold Drive near Eldridge. A modern shop, experienced operators. For appointment call 8-2673.

B & L LAUNDROMAT, Feters. Bring your laundry here regularly for fast service and small charge. Wash. Dry. Iron.

A bewildered man entered a ladies' specialty shop. "I want a corset for my wife." "What bust?" asked the clerk. "Nothing. It just wore out."

BUD'S GARAGE. Now located Railroad & Cherry Sts. Repairing all cars. Guaranteed service. Phone WE 8-3971.

OUR RESORT, El Verano. Harvey and Melina your hosts. Home of the Stein Club. Draft beer. Mixed drinks to your liking.

One of the leading magazines had as its cover illustration recently a scene showing a bleak countryside surrounding a "town" of shanty houses out on an ice-covered lake. One New Year's day, back a few years, we were out four miles on Houghton lake, the biggest in Michigan, and the thermometer read exactly zero.

In our particular shanty there was bait but no hook and line. A few shanties away its occupant had hook and line but no bait. The cabins each had its own little stove, so it was not uncomfortable.

But there were no fish for us. Some in the party were better fish-

ermen, apparently, 'cause we drove back home with the limit of northern pike, a pretty good fish at that.

But never again. Who wants to freeze, drive 100 miles there and back, when fish markets everywhere have stocks of many varieties of fish. Usually ready to eat, too, after frying.

YELL'S ACRES NURSERY, Glen Ellen. Good time of year to select our prize winning Dahlia tubers, and other of our specialties.

MIKE & ROSE'S BOYES SPRINGS STORE. For the finest steaks and your everyday meats, you'll never find a better market.

Went to the Oregon (Ill.) fair one year with our mother, and saw a large tent with many men gathered around it drinking an amber-colored liquid. Begged for some, but got a refusal. "Only men drink such stuff," we were told.

FIELDS' AUTO REPAIRS, next to Texaco, Fetters Springs. Repairing all makes. Work guaranteed. Charges always low.

WALTER GRUNERT AUTO UPHOLSTERY, Fetters Springs. Texaco station. Seat covers, floor mats, truck cushions, interior work.

Barbers, who should know, say that the beard is making a comeback. A modest one, true, but a comeback nonetheless.

Shades of the days when children used to pound a fist and yell "Beaver!" as a Vandyked gentleman happened by! Are we to see an outcropping of goatees, Sforzas, muttonchops and old fashioned vest-coverers? Is that New Yorw psychiatrist correct when he says that more gents are growing beards because man seeks to regain his once dominant position in society over women?

Personally, we go along with those barbers who think it's all just a passing fancy—a case of hair today, gone tomorrow.

RUSTIC INN, Glen Ellen. Main corner. Last of the 11 old-time taverns in this historic spot where Jack London used to roam.

FRIBERG DRUG STORE, So. Broadway, Sonoma. Prescription specialists. A super drug store, large stocks. Soda fountain, too.

The Chrisstmas bells and the New Year bells are silent, but the monthly bills are clanging madly in our ears. If you feel as broke as we do, brace yourself. As Al Jolson used to say: "You ain't heard nothin' yet!"

Someone has come up with the grim news that Uncle Sam (meaning you and you and all of us) has an account due of some \$280,800,000,000. That's twice as much as the total debt of all the other principal nations combined. By comparison, Germany and Japan—who LOST the war—owe \$5 billion and \$2 billion respectively. France owes only \$16 billion; the United Kingdom, \$74 billion. Still we keep on sending them our cash!

In the spirit of the man who beat his head against the wall because it felt so good when he stopped, we offer you, dear reader, this solemn auditing of a debt your government acquired for you while buying something we know not what.

Doesn't it make that Christmas bill seem a little less discouraging—what with the laughs and sparkling child-eyes it bought?

ORDERS TAKEN for Individual Pecan Pies—for parties or meetings. Call WE 8-5893. Delectable! Unique. Prompt delivery.

VALLEY OF THE MOON CIGARS—Union label, handmade right here at home. Most dealers have 'em. Superior quality always.

YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFT PLANTS CAN BE SAVED

Living plants are among the most welcome gifts at Christmastime. In many cases, unfortunately, they are the first to be discarded—due mostly to ignorance about their proper care. Actually, most plants should continue to be good for at least several weeks.

Most common mistake is keeping the plants at too high temperature and too low humidity—conditions that often go hand in hand. Few plants require, or will even tolerate, constant temperatures over 70 deg. And when such a temperature is accompanied by air so dry it will suck the moisture out of a potful of soil in a few hours, the result is likely to be sudden death to any plant previously growing in a moist and fairly cool greenhouse.

Any gift plant most likely belongs to one of these four groups: Spring bulbs that have been forced—narcissi, tulips and hyacinths; forced flowering shrubs—azaleas and camellias; foliage plants—ivy and dracaenas; cacti and succulents.

Of all these, only cacti and succulents will stand high temperature—70 to 80 degrees—and dry air. Another exception is the poinsettia, which prefers a sunny window at 70 degrees and reasonable humidity.

Keep bulbs and shrubs as cool as possible, even as low as 50 deg. (especially at night), and watered frequently to keep the soil constantly moist. Most foliage plants do better at 60 deg. than at higher temperatures.

Weekly cleaning of the foliage is important. Syringe and occasionally wipe off the leaves to accomplish this.

SONOMA MILL & LUMBER CO., Hiway 12 at the big curve. Super service for contractors, carpenters, home owners, ranchers.

ROZARIO'S PALMS INN, Verano. A comfortable, up-to-the-minute hotel, for the discriminating. Splendid dining room, and bar.

This week—or maybe it was last week or the coming week—is Odorless Decoration week! Bet you didn't know that. Maybe it's the aftermath of the holiday season. But if you don't want to celebrate it, try another: It's the Universal Week of Prayer.

There are a lot of other "weeks" coming up. Like all those February birthdays—Washington, Lincoln, Lee, and Andrew Jackson—but remember Kraut and Frankfurter week (February 7-16), Peanut week (March 3 to 9), Babies (April 28 to May 4), Bow Ties (June 16 to 22), Sandwiches (all of August), and Popcorn (October 27 to November 2).

RAY'S SIGNAL SERVICE, Arnold Drive at Cecilia, Eldridge. For Emergency Groceries any time; varied stock. WE 8-5811.

JIM'S MEATS, at Boyes Springs Food Center. Only the very best in stock. Cut to your order. Delicatessen department. Drop in.

Newly planted trees, especially evergreens, need protection against injury by strong winter winds. Best supports are wires, secured to stout stakes a few inches above ground and kept very taut with turn-buckles. To protect the bark, thread the wire with pieces of old hose at the point of contact. Use at least three supporting wires to prevent swaying in any direction.

MAC DONALD'S JEWELRY, Sonoma. Expert watch service. Jewelry for everybody. Watches. Shavers. Watch Bands. Rings.

THE CHICKEN HOUSE, Hiway 12, Boyes. Our chicken is delicious. Same goes for home-made pies, and coffee. Make us prove it!

A PROGRAM FOR THE SPRINGS AREA

A suitable name for the area, preliminary to incorporation as a city.
Solution of the water problem by building a series of dams on Sonoma river to conserve water, prevent floods, and for recreation.

Creation of a Jack London state park.

Complete citywide paving, curbing, and sidewalks.

A bank of our own.

A name for Highway 12 suitable for our new city.

Traffic and parking control in the entire area.

Better street lighting.

A local chamber of commerce, devoted to Springs area promotion.

Procuring of rural delivery and carrier service, from Boyes postoffice.

More facilities, use, and suitable names for local Recreation District parks.

Moonbeams is dedicated to the accomplishment of these aims. Maybe more will be added in the months to come. We can't do it ourselves, but with community cooperation they will be done!

AQUA SOFT—Water Treating Co. Sonoma owned. Call Petaluma Porter 2-7458. Evenings, Sonoma, Webster 8-3433.

BATES AND EVANS, Funeral Directors. Sonoma Valley's Pioneer Funeral Service firm. Serving families of all faiths since 1879. 691 Broadway, Sonoma. Webster 8-2686.